



## **U.S. Naval Forces Africa (NAVAF)**

### **Title of project (s):**

1. African Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership (AMLEP)
2. Exercise OBANGAME EXPRESS (OE)
3. African Partnership Station (APS) Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) efforts

**Organization: U.S. Naval Forces Africa (NAVAF); Naples, Italy**

### **Website (if available):**

1. **NAVAF:** <http://cne-cna-c6f.dodlive.mil/>
2. **Operation JUNCTION RAIN (AMLEP) 2016 with Ghana:**  
<http://cne-cna-c6f.dodlive.mil/amlep-boarding-teams-issue-citations-off-west-africa/> and <http://cne-cna-c6f.dodlive.mil/ghana-u-s-conclude-africa-maritime-law-enforcement-operations/>
3. **Exercise OBANGAME EXPRESS 2016:**  
<http://www.africom.mil/NewsByCategory/article/28060/exercise-obangame-saharan-express-2016-commences>

### **Priorities identified by the project:**

See objectives and overview.

### **Objectives of the project:**

1. **AMLEP:** Develop and strengthen African defense institutions by promoting regional stability and economic development through increased African partner maritime security and governance of their TTS and EEZ through training, exercises, and combined law enforcement operations.
2. **Exercise OE:** To assess progress towards initiatives identified in the African Union's Integrated Maritime Strategy and Yaoundé Code of Conduct.
3. **APS MDA Efforts:** To improve Ghana's MDA capability and capacity.



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## Overview of the project – provide 1-3 sentences.

1. **AMLEP** is a five-phase program that includes a feasibility analysis, training and participation in U.S. Africa Command's component-led exercises and an operational phase, which is conducted alongside a U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment and aims to operationalize the skills gained during the training and exercise participation.
2. **Exercise OE** is a multi-national maritime exercise in West and Central Africa designed to assess naval and maritime security sector capacity, capability and interoperability across a broad range of naval and law enforcement tasks. OE involves participation from numerous African, US, and international partners and agencies exercising a wide-range of scenarios including IUU fishing, piracy, illicit trafficking, oil spill response, energy security, etc.
3. **APS MDA Efforts** include: training Maritime Operations Center (MOC) personnel, facilitating information sharing amongst government agencies and providing detailed recommendations on how to improve MDA. NAVAF also purchases and shares satellite AIS from three commercial vendors as well as Lloyd's Registry of Ships (IHS Fairplay) data with multiple agencies in Ghana. NAVAF is exploring a number of other MDA initiatives including correlating VMS data with AIS and RADAR data on a single display and testing an extremely low cost, effective method for transmitting a ship-based RADAR picture to the MOC ashore.

## Relationship to security issues, if any:

All projects directly relate to maritime security issues.

## Relationship to governance issues, if any:

Projects #1 and #2 focus heavily on maritime governance issues.

## Status of the project - timeline of the project:

1. Training and assessments for **AMLEP** take place throughout the year; however, the operations portion typically lasts for 1-3 weeks with each country.
2. **Exercise OE** has three planning events throughout the year leading up to the execution which takes place in mid/late March each year.
3. **APS MDA Efforts** are ongoing throughout the entire year.



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## **Designated contact and contact information:**

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## **Historical context for the project (how project initiated, etc.)**

1. The operational part of AMLEP (Operation JUNCTION RAIN) started in 2008 with the first iteration in Ghana in 2014. Subsequent iterations of Operation JUNCTION RAIN in Ghana have occurred in 2015 and 2016.
2. The first iteration of Exercise OE took place in 2011.
3. NAVAF MDA efforts began in Ghana in 2008.

## **What kind of partnership do you have with Ghana? (partners/collaborators, funders, implementers, etc.):**

**NAVAF** is a partner with Ghana and we fund and implement a number of training, exercises, operations, and workshops throughout the year.

## **Who is your main Ghana partner(s)? (government, agency, local NGO, university etc.):**

**NAVAF** primarily works closely with the Ghana Navy; however, we also incorporate the Maritime Police, Fisheries, and other interagency partners into training, exercises and operations. The notable inclusion into this year's Operation included Ghana's Joint Fisheries Enforcement Unit.

For questions about our international development efforts in Africa, please contact NOAA Fisheries / Oriana Villar ([oriana.villar@noaa.gov](mailto:oriana.villar@noaa.gov)).